Bandwidth Tariffs

2444. SHRI DHARAM PAL SABHARWAL: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that to and fro International Long Distance (ILD) bandwidth tariffs have come down by about 90 per cent during the last 5 years;

(b) if so, what has been the year-on-year fall in international bandwidth tariff during the last five years; and

(c) to what extent the consumers have been benefited from this fall in tariff?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) The International Long Distance bandwidth tariffs were under forbearance as per Telecom Tariff Order 1999. However, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) has issued a Tariff Order in the year 2005 prescribing the ceiling limit for International Long Distance bandwidth through submarine cable. The details of tariffs for 2 Mbps (E1) capacity are as follows:

Year/Date	Rs. In lakhs
2000	163.7
2001	40.0
15.2.2002	26.0
1.1.2004	23.7
1.4.2004	21.3
1.1.2005	20.0
1.6.2005	18.0
29.11.2005	13.0*

*This is a ceiling tariff and ILD operators are offering the rate of Rs. 11.00 lakhs on specific submarine cable.

(c) The consumers have been benefited to the above extent.

BSNL towers in UP

2445. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of BSNL towers for mobile telephony installed in Uttar Pradesh;

(b) the range of each of the tower and the towers which have not been working properly for the last six months and which have not been providing proper connectivity to the subscribers; and

(c) the steps taken to solve the problems?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Sir, BSNL has so far installed around 1782 Mobile towers in the State of Uttar Pradesh (UP) for Global Mobile System (GSM) based mobile service.

(c)The range of Mobile Base Stations (Mobile Tower) depends on a number of factors including type of Base Station equipment, type of antenna, height of the antenna, direction of the Antenna, terrain conditions etc. Accordingly, the range of base Stations may vary from 10 Km. to 200 meters. GSM mobile service of BSNL in UP is working satisfactorily and is in general, meeting the quality of service parameters prescribed by TRAI. No mobile tower has been reported to be mal-functioning/providing improper connectivity for the last six months in UP.

(d) Does not arise in view of (b) above.

MTNL towers in Delhi

2446. MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of places in Delhi where the MTNL towers for mobile telephony have been installed;

(b) the towers which have not been working properly for the last six months and which have not been providing proper connectivity to the subscribers; and